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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED JULY 14TH, 1866.]

SESSION 1865-6.

Twelfth Meeting (ANNIVERSARY), 1 P.M., May 28th, 1866.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in
the Chair.

THE business of the Meeting commenced by the Secretary reading the Regulations for the conduct of the Anniversary, and the minutes of the Meeting last year. Admiral Sir Edward Belcher and Charles White, Esq., J.P., were then appointed by the President as Scrutineers of the Ballot.

Captain J. B. Caldbeck; Joel Emanuel, Esq.; W. D. Fox, Esq.; Charles Grey, Esq.; Joseph Hunt, Esq.; W. H. Johnson, Esq.; Wyndham Knatchbull, Esq.; Alexander Lebour, Esq.; Viscount Pollington; Major-General Rivers; were elected Fellows of the Society.

The Report of the Council was next read; its adoption was proposed by General VINCENT EYRE, seconded by Sir MANOCKJEE CURSETJEE, and carried without a dissentient voice.

Mr. J. CRAWFURD next moved that the following clause be added to the Regulations, Chap. II. :—

“ Par. 7.—The Council are empowered to remit the entrance fees and subscriptions in a limited number of cases, where it may be found desirable to elect gentlemen to the Fellowship who are distinguished for their services to Geographical Science, and whose circumstances render it inconvenient to them to make the necessary payments.”

Sir ANDREW SCOTT WAUGH seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then delivered the Royal Medals for the encouragement of geographical science and discovery, the FOUNDER'S MEDAL to Dr. THOMAS THOMSON, M.D., F.R.S., and the PATRON'S MEDAL to Mr. WILLIAM CHANDLESS, M.A., who was represented on the occasion by his brother, Mr. Cecil Long. A Testimonial was afterwards presented to M. P. B. DU CHAILLU, and a gold watch to MOOLA ABDUL MEDJID; the latter being received, in the temporary absence of Sir H. C. Rawlinson, by Viscount Strangford.

After the presentation of the awards, the PRESIDENT read his Annual Address on the progress of Geography. Sir CHARLES NICHOLSON, BART., then moved a vote of thanks to Sir Roderick Murchison, which was seconded by Mr. CHARLES WHITE, and carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT replied as follows:—

“Gentlemen,—I return my sincere thanks for your kind approbation of my labours. They certainly have not been inconsiderable; but it has been a work of true pleasure to myself. Whenever I try to put before the world a sketch of the progress of Geography, I do it with zeal; and when I endeavoured to do justice to those eminent men who have recently passed away, you might have perceived, I am sure, that the expressions I made use of came from my heart. My friend Sir Charles Nicholson has made an allusion to my continuance as the President of this Society; but I beg him to recollect that a man who happens to have been born in the year 1792, however much he may have been hitherto approved of, may possibly—and I think it not at all unlikely—have passed next year into the condition of the Archbishop of Toledo, and that his last sermon may not be quite as good as those of earlier date. It is my duty to speak to you as plainly as I do regarding my retirement from the Chair, because I really think that your President should be changed biennially, and that it is by a sort of fiction, only, you have continued to elect me. At the next Anniversary my present term of office will elapse. If you again violate the rule, you offer no encouragement to others to preside over this Society. As the post which I occupy is highly distinguished and honourable, it is one to which others ought to succeed. I hope that, when the next Anniversary arrives, and when I am sure I shall be able to announce to you the continued prosperity of the Society, that you will then have found some person well qualified to occupy this chair, and discharge the important duties which are required of your President.”

The Scrutineers reported the unanimous election of all the officers

recommended by the Council as follows:—*President* : Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Bart., K.C.B., F.R.S., &c. *Vice-Presidents*: Vice-Admiral Sir G. Back, D.C.L., F.R.S. ; John Crawford, Esq., F.R.S. ; Francis Galton, Esq., M.A., F.R.S. ; Major-General Sir Henry C. Rawlinson, K.C.B., M.P. *Trustees* : Lord Houghton ; Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart. *Secretaries* : Clements R. Markham, Esq., F.S.A. ; R. H. Major, Esq., F.S.A. *Foreign Secretary* : Cyril C. Graham, Esq. *Members of Council* : John Arrowsmith, Esq., F.R.A.S. ; Major-General G. Balfour, C.B., R.A. ; Samuel W. Baker, Esq. ; Thomas H. Brooking, Esq. ; Admiral Lord Colchester ; Rear-Admiral R. Collinson, C.B. ; R. W. Crawford, Esq., M.P. ; Hon. R. Curzon ; Sir William Thomas Denison, F.R.S. ; James Fergusson, Esq., F.R.S. ; Right Hon. Sir Thomas F. Fremantle, Bart. ; W. J. Hamilton, Esq., F.R.S. ; Rear-Admiral Sir John C. Dalrymple Hay, Bart., F.R.S. ; Captain Felix Jones (late I.N.) ; Herman Merivale, Esq. ; Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart. ; Laurence Oliphant, Esq., M.P. ; William Spottiswoode, Esq., M.A., F.R.S. ; Viscount Strangford ; Thomas Thomson, Esq., M.D., F.R.S. ; Major-General Sir A. Scott Waugh, F.R.S. *Treasurer* : Reginald T. Cocks, Esq.

A vote of thanks was in conclusion moved by Colonel THUILIER, to the retiring Members of Council, the Members of Committee, the Auditors, and Scrutineers. It was seconded by Captain JENKINS, I.N., and carried with applause. The Meeting then separated.